

JFK Assassination System
Identification Form

Date: 6/2/2015

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-90100-10032
RECORD SERIES : HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 52-72398-73

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 54027 Date:
08-25-2017

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : CV
TO : HQ

TITLE :

DATE : 12/02/1958
PAGES : 3

SUBJECTS :

JOSEPH RAYMOND MEROLA
THEFT OF 318 WEAPONS, 16 BLANKETS, ONE CARBINE
RANK, OHIO NA

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 07/29/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE

COMMENTS : AT

F B I

Date: 12-2-58

PLAIN TEXT

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (52-1918)

UNSUBS; Theft of 317 Weapons,
16 Blankets, 1 Carbine Rack
from Ohio National Guard Armory,
Canton, Ohio, on 10-14-58;
STUART SUTOR
TGP, ITSP, FFA, NEUTRALITY MATTERS

Re NY airtel to Bureau, 11-10-58.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/11/79 BY SP2 TAP/CA

Capt. FRANK BURNOSKY, Chief of Detectives, Canton, O. PD
advised on 11-24-58, that the individual who would most
closely fit the description of "a well known safe cracker
in Canton who specializes in burglarizing safes in private
homes" would be GEORGE MIKE FLOREA, FBI #2888609. Associates
of FLOREA are GEORGE VICTOR ZUGRAVE, FBI #2878523, and
SAMUEL JOSEPH MESSARIS, FBI #840808, known burglars in the
Canton area.

BURNOSKY stated an informant of his dept. stated that FLOREA
was involved in instant theft and that FLOREA's Cadillac
and a Chrysler were used in the burglary in addition to a
rented truck.

Reairtel advised that LOUIS MARTINEZ had made a telephone
call from the Manhattan Hotel, NY on 9-19-58, to Canton.

GL 4-0532 which is listed to the Varsity Restaurant, Canton,
a hangout for FLOREA and local hoodlums.

PCI, JOHN APOSTOLOS advised SA JAMES E. GILLEY on 11-17-58,
that he had seen GEORGE FLOREA and LOUIS MARTINEZ together
several times in Canton during the past few months or so, he
could not recall the exact dates. He never heard either of them

- 3 - Bureau
2 - New York (52-5814)
2 - Pittsburgh (encl. 4)
1 - Philadelphia (info)
1 - Cleveland

HEW:tmr

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M Per _____

F B I

Date:

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CV 52-1918

discuss the theft of weapons at the ONG Armory at Canton. PCI could not recall MARTINEZ calling the Varsity Restaurant in 9-58, from NY, however, a couple days before MARTINEZ was arrested in NY for kidnapping, MARTINEZ telephoned the Varsity Restaurant and asked to talk to ALEX KARRAS, the bartender, who takes messages for FLOREA and MESSARIS when they are not there. KARRAS is a loyal member of the gang and cannot be trusted according to PCI. KARRAS later mentioned that MARTINEZ wanted money when he called and it was his opinion that the money was requested of FLOREA.

PCI stated that FLOREA has not been around for several weeks and was working with PHIL MAINER at Calumet City, Ill. FLOREA gave a telephone number of TO 2-9628 where he could be reached, which is probably the "Riptide" bar in that city. MAINER is from the Youngstown, O. area and a known hoodlum.

FLOREA is a suspect in the case entitled, UNSUBS (3), JOHN NICHOLAS NUZZO, Jr., wa., Don Myers - FUG; Theft of 22,313 Shares Class A. Common Stock, American Petrofina, Inc. valued at \$245,443, 5-17-58, Lancaster, Pa., DONALD M. MYERS - VICTIM, ITSP - MAYOR THEFT, CV file 87-4723, OO: PH.

Capt. FRANK BURNOSKY, Canton PD advised on 11-28-58, that his previously mentioned informant (believed to be identical with PCI JOHN APOSTOLOS) stated that some time ago LOUIS MARTINEZ talked to ALEX KARRAS, a bartender at the Varsity Restaurant, Canton, and that KARRAS then put MARTINEZ in touch with GEORGE FLOREA. Shortly thereafter FLOREA was seen with VINCENT INNOCENZI, CV PD # 71173, and RICHARD ALEX STEWART, CV PD # 89173, CV hoodlums and one JOE BAGGY. The four left the restaurant and entered a Chrysler year and license registration unknown which was supposed to have been borrowed.

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Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

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MAINER reported to have connections around New Kensington, Pa. according to PCI MARIO GUERRIERI.

Enclosed for PG are photos of FLOEA, ZUGRAVE, MESSARIS and MAINER.

PG is requested to ascertain what connections MAINER has in the New Kensington area and his possible involvement in instant theft. Investigation at CV continuing re FLOEA.

MURPHY.

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Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge